



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
NAVAL MEDICAL COMMAND  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20372-5120

IN REPLY REFER TO

NAVMEDCOMINST 6740.2  
MEDCOM-313  
30 Jul 85

NAVMEDCOM INSTRUCTION 6740.2

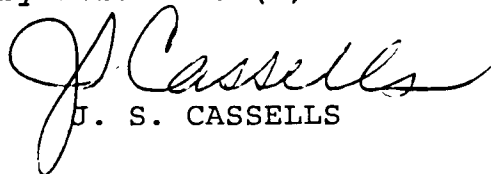
From: Commander, Naval Medical Command  
To: Ships and Stations Having Medical Department Personnel  
Subj: REQUIRED PROCEDURES FOR THE USE OF MULTIPLE DOSE VIALS (MDV)  
Ref: (a) MANMED, Chapter 21

1. Purpose. To establish procedures governing the use of multiple dose parenteral medication vials.

2. Background. Multiple dose vials (MDV) may be reused if certain procedures are followed to eliminate the risk of infection. Use of an arbitrary disposal policy does not reduce the infection risk, and it is more costly.

3. Action. All medical and dental treatment facilities using MDV shall implement and strictly adhere to the following procedures:

- a. Label all MDV with the date of vial entry.
- b. Use strict aseptic technique in initial use and reuse.
- c. Thirty days after opening, discard any MDV that require the addition of a diluent, unless stability considerations dictate otherwise.
- d. Discard any opened MDV which do not require addition of diluent on the expiration date specified by the manufacturer.
- e. Discard sterile water and normal saline solution used in conjunction with respiratory therapy equipment after initial use.
- f. Discard contaminated vials immediately upon detection.
- g. Do not store MDV in the refrigerator (39°F or 4°C) unless required to do so by the manufacturer.
- h. Include careful observation of the above procedures in the monthly inspections required by reference (a).

  
J. S. CASSELLS

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